A child out at night alone in the most remote town...

uh ...

Um ... I -I -I

Well, whoever's watching probably isn't her guardian.

what do you need?

ビクッ

Child

Of course.

Mio, can you deal with this?

She's definitely not just some lost kid.

第十二夜：ざわめきの夜

原作：あずみ圭／漫画：木野コトラ

Uh ...

Eek!

You're a hindrance, so if you have no business with us

get out of the way.

!?

Ahh!

What is it?

It's not fun like this!

B-But she got in the way of our time together!

Huh?!

How did you reach that conclusion?!

I thought you wanted to get her out of the way-

What are you doing to a little girl?!

Aah!

The pain feels so good!

ばっ
!!
Knock it off, Mio.
What's so funny?!
Heh, he he he
M f f h!
That's no reason to threaten a little girl!
ぎゅっ
ぽっ
ぴくっ
Can you read?
Ah... I-I can.
read?
have a reque...
I- I- I
ほ……
Sorry that my companion tried to scare you.
にこっ
What are you doing out here?

Wh-

Waaaah!

ぐぅ…

Ugh
...
Agh
...

But Young Master, she is still a female

What?!

We'll take her back to the inn with us.

We have no choice.

You-

Get away from-

Young Master's knee?!

ずびー

びえええん

...

Really,

Young Master could've been a little nicer to me

Ugh, understood!

If you insist, Young Master!

... Mio.

What are you talking about?

How I envy her.

ずびー

Well, I did spend several years sleeping,

so not eating or sleeping for a while should be just fine.

Though I did bring out some of his sympathy ...

Don't cause trouble!

It would also be nice if he were more willing to seek out trouble.

We can't right the world like this.

That's convenient.

while 2 more are standing watch a distance away.

4 are breaking in

Hm, looks like they're moving

You will help me check that.

I haven't faced humans in a while,

so I'm not sure how much power to use.

Even if I can't control my strength well enough, 2 of them will still survive.

Do you have

business with our cart?

!!

Haah ...

You're too slow and too weak

Snap

Crack

I was holding back as much as I could

That one's probably dead

Wh-She's gone...

Perhaps I shouldn't use my katana here

But I do still need to test it out

I never disappeared

I simply closed the distance and got behind you

Hm ?

I look forward to when those Eldwars make me a proper katana

I didn't feel any resistance as I cut. Well done, Elder dwarves

That's a bit long, I'll call them "Eldwars" instead

カラン…

The ones standing guard have run pretty far already

That's not good, you can't interrogate a corpse

It seems it was better than I thought

I only aimed to destroy the sword!

Gh.

Carefully..

That one's chest is flat, so it's probably a man

!?

I better choose one of these 2

So,

what part of this went well, evil magistrate?

カチャ

I think I did relatively well.

If I go after women and children, Young Master will treat me like an evil magistrate.

ビクッ

This was no doubt a conspiracy!

Th-This is just a trap!

And what happened ?

Well... The first was surprisingly fragile while the second one died because my katana is too good

Teehee

It was just a light kick and I only aimed to cut the sword with my katana!

I didn't mean to!

Does that conspiracy include your killing of 2 robbers?

You're not an evil magistrate, you're a ruffian

Young Master !

Thank Mio once she comes back from cleaning up your mess, Ruffian

Ugh what an abundant vocabulary

Also

would you care to explain this

I-I picked the one who had no breasts and seemed to be a man!

Hey! He's still got his weapons!

I didn't think breasts would appear after you removed the weapons!

Whoa!——!!

Don't say it like I made them grow there! And it's your fault for not doing a proper strip-search!

You're causing another mess!

I was worried that you'd call me a pervert for stripping her.

S-a-f-e-t-y f-i-r-s-t!

Unlike an idiot, a pervert can still be redeemed!

He's saying weird words I've never heard before. What language is that?

U-Um ...

She said her family's gone missing

There seem to be some odd circum stances, so I brought her here

No, I didn't abduct her.

Uh, I-I'm Rinon.

Thank you for letting me use your bath

I'm completely refreshed now

Hm? Who are you?

I'll let you off for now, Tomoe

but make sure this doesn't happen again

?

Ugh... I can't worry a little girl

?

おろっ

Um,

did something happen ?

You were yelling

...?

Um... I heard you're unable to talk

Not that I understood a word of that

If you're gonna thank someone, you should thank me

Huh?

Thank you!

Oh, well done, child!

Nope, she doesn't understand.

...?

What was that?

ﾊﾝｶﾞﾘｱﾝｸﾞｳｪｰｼﾞ

"Kng vosr aipg"

I just heard

Really? But

Since you didn't understand

Young Master tried to say "I can speak" in the common language just now

That's what I sound like?!

What a shock.

He'd previously been learning other languages

Young Master's ability to speak the common language is sealed by a curse

so he was able to speak one that we also understood

What?!

If that's the case

Hmm

that's not good, since I'm making them all sound evil

Huh? Are curses something only demons use?

That's just mean! The demons must've done that!

A curse that prevents you from speaking in the common language?

Don't fire back like that now

I know

But I did just that right now

?

it's not good to just falsely blame the demons

Wait, Tomoe,

So, what was the situation about your family?

They're truly a troublesome bunch

Well, the common language is a blessing granted to us by the goddess

I don't know if it was by a demon or not

but what makes you certain that it must have been one?

Humans and demons don't get along

so this must have been done by a demon that was jealous of humans

The goddess doesn't recognize non-humans

so they have to learn the language themselves

Huh?

Can I?

Just address me however you feel comfortable

So, um... Sir...

So the reason humans and demons don't get along is because of that bug?

I see

How old were you when you finally managed to speak after paying homage at a shrine?

I was 4 when I managed to do it!

ほっ=!

She's like my little sister when she was younger

ぽあっ

Then ... Mister!

Some kids can start speaking before they're 3 years old.

I was a little slow.

Blessing

Good day

Googa~

After being born, you need to visit a shrine to receive the goddess blessing and be able to speak the common language

Did you forget because you were so young then?

Huh?

don't know about this.

Your meal is ready.

knock

knock

As you wish

Take one of them to the other room

That bug intends to resist to the bitter end

It's more like getting vaccinated

You don't even have to learn the language!

Rinon, there's still a meal left

you should head to the other room and eat it, then just go to bed since it's getting late

Huh?

Young Master, Is that perhaps mine?

There also happens to be a bed still available there

That's also mine.

T- Thank you ...

Oh, right! Here!

I drew a picture of my missing sister

That's rather well drawn

You're pretty good

Hehe, I've always been good at drawing

She's not perfect

but she's still family

Thank you for the food

Also...

No, it's nothing

Good night

That's not why I'm doing this

First Mio, and now you...

If she resembles her, she must be quite the beauty

They look quite similar

I'm sorry

I wouldn't have cared and just eaten it in the past

but after tasting the young master, nothing else is good enough

Ugh, disgusting

Huh?

Young Master ?

Oh, you're interrogating the prisoner with magic?

I've returned

Ah, yes,

We're pretty much done here

Oh, welcome back, Mio. How'd it all go?

Hm?

He looks a little ...

Ugh...

You're a great help, Mio

Haha, sorry about that

Seriously

It was disgusting though

He's back to normal.

I've also finished my job

There's plenty more connections here

it's basically tied to the town's dark side

Rinon... That small girl?

And as I expected, it's also connected to Rinon

These robbers listened in on us at the guild

Everything's turning out just how Tomoe would've liked, which is annoying

Well, maybe that's not entirely accurate

She borrowed so much money from them that she was sold off to repay her debt

Seems these bunch have captured her

Rinon's sister.

My, how well-made. So what is it?

Here

We can certainly function without sleeping for a few months

Right now?! Without any food or rest?

so can you go and find her tonight?

Tomoe, Mio, I've got a rough idea of where she is

Exactly! And since I've been in this body

I've experienced how great it feels to sleep every night!

But, since we also have human bodies now we'd like to live like you do, Young Master!

Mio, you idiot!

I didn't know that

Oh, is that true, Tomoe?

Tomoe

you should understand from what we learned just now

that there's no guarantee nothing will happen to her sister

But if you go together, won't you be able to overcome pretty much anything?

It sounds to me like that sister is just reaping what she sowed

And how can you even be sure that she's still ali-

Mio

I would like to save that girl's sister

so please ...

It's that look again

Uh... Yes...

It's as if he's lost all interest in me

We've no choice then

I'll go there with Rinon

We can sell our cargo at the marketplace without a merchant guild plate, right?

Quit trying to turn everything into a period drama!

Why not?! Are they not great instructions for living your life?!

I'm not an elderly nobleman

You really...

We have our job!

うむ!!

Our elderly nobleman is awaiting news of us helping someone in need!

もじっ…

After we finish this... I...

Oh, also ...

Hm? What now?

Well, I[washi] feel that this suits me better

Why would you even need to ask that?

S-Sure, just do what you want

Would like to change how I[watashi] refer to myself

The familiar face is throwing him off.....!!

Huh? Okay

You have my gratitude! Well then let's go, Mio.

Just do whatever you want

No

Would you like to speak this way as well?

Though I feel that it fits the character of the elderly nobleman more.

I don't know if I'd be able to control myself if I went there

I'm counting on you

but she's just too similar

to Hasegawa

She's Rinon's sister

so she's a total stranger too me